

REMARKS

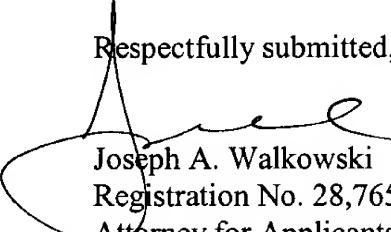
Claims 1-45 are currently pending in the application and are subject to an Election of Species Restriction Requirement. Applicants sincerely apologize for the apparent insufficiency of their prior responses. Applicants note that amendments to pending claims 1-45 and to the specification were submitted in Applicants' response mailed on July 23, 2003. Applicants respectfully request acknowledgement of these amendments.

New claims 46-48 have been added. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. Support for the new claims is found in paragraph [0028] of the as-filed specification.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute a melt-pourable explosive composition that comprises 2,4-dinitroanisole and N-methyl-nitroaniline as the one or more organic binders, aluminum as the one or more reactive metallic fuels, and ammonium perchlorate as the one or more oxidizers. The species of invention is as set forth in claims 1, 6, 8, 10, and new claim 46. The claims that read upon this species election include claims 6, 8, 10, and 46.

Applicants consider claims 1, 15, and 41 to be generic and note that upon allowance of a generic claim, claims respectively depending therefrom directed to a non-elected species would also be allowable. In the case of claim 1, this would encompass claims 2-5, 7, 9, 11-14 and 43; in the case of claim 15, this would encompass claims 16-21, 23, 24, 26-34, 36-40 and 44; in the case of claim 41, this would encompass claims 42 and 45.

Applicants respectfully request an action on the merits of claims 1, 6, 8, 10, and 46.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph A. Walkowski
Registration No. 28,765
Attorney for Applicants
TRASKBRITT
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

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